

Remarks

In response to the Office Action dated February 13, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following remarks. The claims as presented are believed to be in allowable condition.

In the present application, the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 15 in the Specification and claims 1, 7, 12, and 24 have been amended. The Specification was amended to add a missing reference numeral and to remove embedded hyperlink text which was noted by the Examiner. Claims 8, 20, and 32 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 12, and 24 have been amended to include the limitations of now cancelled claims 8, 20, and 32 and further to require that the claimed keyboard housing is adjustable to varying angles desired by a user. Support for these amendments may be found on page 3, lines 8-10, page 4, lines 27-29, page 5, lines 22-24, and on page 6, lines 25-27. Claims 1, 7, and 24 have also been amended to provide antecedent basis for the terms "main body" (claim 1), "support" (claim 7) and "keyboard housing" (claim 24). No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-36 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-7, 10-19, 22 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Youens (U.S. Patent 5,764,474). Claims 24-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Youens. Claims 8, 9, 20 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Youens in view of Clancy et al. (U.S. Patent 5,168,427).

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner has object to the disclosure on page 6, lines 17-18 for containing an embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. In response, Applicants have amended the specification to remove the aforementioned code.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-7, 10-19, 22 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Youens. In response, Applicants submit that Youens fails to teach or suggest each of the recitations in the aforementioned claims as currently amended. Amended independent claims 1 and 12 require a positioning support for adjusting a slope of a keyboard housing in discrete steps such that the keyboard housing is adjustable to varying angles desired by the user relative to an underlying main body. Youens discloses a keyboard having a positioning support (indicated by reference numeral 50 in Fig. 2) for adjusting a slope of the keyboard at a fixed angle relative to an underlying main body (indicated by reference numeral 24 in Fig. 2). See Fig. 2 and Col. 4, lines 25-34. Youens, however, fails to teach or suggest a support for adjusting a keyboard housing in discrete steps such that the keyboard housing is adjustable to varying angles desired by the user relative to the underlying main body as is required by claims 1 and 12. Since Youens fails to teach or suggest each of the claim recitations in amended claims 1 and 12, these claims are allowable and the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-7, and 10-11 depend from amended independent claim 1 and are thus allowable for at least the reasons stated above with respect to claim 1 as well as the additional recitations set forth therein. Similarly, claims 13-19, 22 and 23 depend from amended claim 12 and are thus allowable for at least the reasons stated above with respect to claim 12 as well as the additional recitations set forth therein. Therefore, the rejections of dependent claims 2-7, 10-11, 13-19, 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) should also be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 24-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Youens. As noted above, claim 32 has been cancelled. Regarding the remaining claims,

Applicants submit that Youens fails to teach or suggest the recitations in the aforementioned remaining claims as currently amended. Regarding amended independent claim 24, the claim requires replacing an existing keyboard with a keyboard housing including a positioning support for adjusting a slope of the keyboard housing in discrete steps such that the keyboard housing is adjustable to varying angles desired by the user relative to an underlying main body. As discussed above in the discussion of amended claims 1 and 12, Youens fails to teach or suggest a positioning support for adjusting a keyboard housing in discrete steps such that the keyboard housing is adjustable to varying angles desired by the user relative to the underlying main body. Thus, amended claim 24 is allowable the rejection of this claim under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Claims 25-31 and 33-36 depend from amended independent claim 24 and are thus allowable for at least the reasons stated above with respect to claim 24 as well as the additional recitations set forth therein. Therefore, the rejections of dependent claims 25-31 and 33-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should also be withdrawn.

Claims 8, 9, 20 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Youens in view of Clancy et al. (U.S. Patent 5,168,427). As noted above, claims 8 and 20 have been cancelled. However, as amended independent claims 1 and 12 incorporate the recitations of cancelled claims 8 and 20, respectively, the aforementioned rejection will be discussed with respect to amended claims 1 and 12 as well as claims 9 and 21 which depend from claims 1 and 12. As discussed above, Youens discloses a keyboard having a positioning support for adjusting a slope of the keyboard at a fixed angle relative to an underlying main body. Clancy et al. also discloses a keyboard which in one embodiment (Fig. 9) includes a pawl member 80a. Clancy et al. teaches that the pawl member 80a includes a notch for permitting the keyboard to be tilted to and releasably latched in a fixed intermediate tilted use orientation

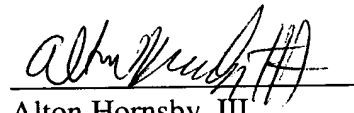
position between its storage/transport orientation (See Figs. 5A, 5C, and Col. 8, lines 8-19). However, Clancy et al. fails to teach or suggest adjusting a slope of a keyboard housing in discrete steps such that the keyboard housing is adjustable to varying angles desired by the user relative to an underlying main body as required by amended independent claims 1 and 12. In other words, while both Youens and Clancy et al. disclose keyboards capable of adjustment to a fixed slope position, neither reference teaches or suggests a keyboard housing adjustable in discrete steps at varying angles as desired by a user. Thus neither Youens nor Clancy et al., alone or in combination, teach or suggest the recitations of amended independent claims 1 and 12.

Claims 9 and 21 depend from amended independent claims 1 and 12 and thus include at least the same recitations as these claims as well as the additional recitations set forth therein. Therefore, neither Youens nor Clancy et al., alone or in combination, teach or suggest the recitations of claims 9 and 21 and the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is now in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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